

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT 44

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BROWNSVILLE DIVISION**

STATE OF TEXAS, <i>et al.</i>)	
)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	No. 1:14-CV-254
v.)	
)	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, <i>et al.</i>)	
)	
Defendants.)	

DECLARATION OF DONALD W. NEUFELD

I, Donald W. Neufeld, hereby make the following declaration with respect to the above captioned matter.

1. I am the Associate Director for Service Center Operations (SCOPS) for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), a component within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS or Department). I have held this position since January 2010. In this position, I oversee all policy, planning, management and execution functions of SCOPS. My current job duties include overseeing a workforce of more than 3,000 government employees and 1,500 contract employees at the four USCIS Service Centers located in California, Nebraska, Texas and Vermont. These four centers adjudicate about four million immigration-related applications and requests annually, including all requests for deferred action under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process.

2. I was previously the Deputy/Acting Associate Director for USCIS Domestic Operations from June 2007 to January 2010 where I oversaw all immigration adjudication activities at USCIS's four Service Centers and 87 field offices throughout the United States, as well as 130

Application Support Centers, four Regional Offices, two Call Centers, the Card Production Facility and the National Benefits Center. From January 2006 to June 2007, I was Chief of USCIS Field Operations managing and overseeing the 87 field offices delivering immigration benefit services directly to applicants and petitioners in communities across the United States and the National Benefits Center (NBC) which performs centralized front-end processing of certain applications and petitions. My career with USCIS and the legacy Immigration and Naturalization Service spans more than 30 years, where I have held several leadership positions including Deputy Assistant District Director for the Los Angeles District, Assistant District Director and later District Director of the Miami District, and Service Center Director for the California and Nebraska Service Centers. I began my career in 1983, initially hired as a clerk in the Los Angeles District, then serving as an Information Officer, then an Immigration Examiner, conducting interviews and adjudicating applications for immigration benefits. I also performed inspections of arriving passengers at Los Angeles International Airport.

3. I make this declaration on the basis of my personal knowledge and information made available to me in the course of my official duties.

USCIS's Role in Immigration Enforcement

4. DHS has three components with responsibilities over the enforcement of the nation's immigration laws: (1) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); (2) Customs and Border Protection (CBP); and (3) USCIS. USCIS is the DHS component that administers a variety of immigration-related programs. Currently, USCIS adjudicates approximately seven million applications, petitions and requests per year, including applications for naturalization by lawful permanent residents (LPRs), immigrant visa petitions (including employment-based visa petitions filed by U.S. employers and family-based visa petitions filed by U.S. citizens and

LPRs), a variety of non-immigrant petitions (including temporary worker categories such as the H-1B), asylum and refugee status, other humanitarian protections under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and for victims of trafficking and crimes, humanitarian parole, and deferred action, among others.

5. USCIS's current budget is approximately \$3.2 billion. This budget is funded overwhelmingly by user fees paid by individuals who file applications. Only approximately 5% of our budget is from Congressionally-appropriated taxpayer funds, and those appropriations are specifically designated for operation and maintenance of the employment verification system, known as E-Verify, and for limited citizenship-related services (none of which are related to requests for deferred action).

6. USCIS employs approximately 13,000 federal employees and an additional 5,000 contract employees housed in a range of facilities throughout the United States and overseas. USCIS maintains 87 Field Offices under its Field Operations Directorate (FOD) and four major Service Centers under SCOPS. These Service Centers are located in Dallas, Texas; Laguna Niguel, California; Lincoln, Nebraska; and St. Albans, Vermont. Altogether, the Service Centers employ approximately 3,000 federal workers. USCIS also operates the NBC, which is similar in size to a Service Center. The NBC performs some limited adjudications, although it was originally established to prepare cases for adjudication in other offices by conducting pre-interview case review.

7. The Field Offices and Service Centers adjudicate a wide range of immigration-related applications and requests. USCIS distributes the responsibility for processing and adjudicating various categories of applications and requests among the Field Offices and Service Centers

based on multiple considerations in order to achieve maximum efficiency, reliability, consistency, and accuracy.

8. The Service Centers are designed to adjudicate applications, petitions and requests of programs that have higher-volume caseloads, including non-immigrant visa petitions (such as H-1Bs), I-130 petitions establishing relationships between a U.S. citizen or LPR and a foreign national relative, employment-based applications for adjustment of status to lawful permanent residence, multiple forms of humanitarian protection (including temporary protected status, protection under the VAWA, non-immigrant status for victims of crimes and trafficking), and requests for deferred action under the DACA process.¹

9. In addition to the Field Offices and Service Centers, USCIS also uses three centralized “lockboxes” for the initial receipt and processing of most applications, requests, and fee payments received by the agency each year. At the lockbox, every application and request is opened, reviewed for basic filing requirements, then fees are collected, and data is captured. In order to ensure reliability and proper processing, each application and request must be logged into one of the USCIS computer systems, the paper applications and requests must be scanned, the payment must be processed, a receipt must be issued, and the hardcopy applications and requests must be distributed to the appropriate Field Office, Service Center, or the NBC for further processing.

¹ DACA is not the only deferred action program handled by USCIS Service Centers. For example, the Vermont Service Center (VSC) currently administers two programs through which individuals may be placed in deferred action, one related to relief under VAWA and one related to U nonimmigrant status. VAWA allows certain spouses, children, and parents to self-petition for family-based immigration benefits if they have been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty by the U.S. citizen or LPR spouse or parent, or U.S. citizen son or daughter. If the VAWA self-petition is approved by VSC, the self-petitioner can file an application for adjustment of status that is adjudicated by the appropriate field office. In addition, based on the approved self-petition, the self-petitioner is eligible for consideration for deferred action and for an employment authorization document. VSC adjudicates all VAWA self-petitions and also administers the deferred action and EAD component of the VAWA program.

The DACA Process

10. In 2012, then-Secretary of Homeland Security Napolitano “set[] forth how, in the exercise of our prosecutorial discretion, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should enforce the Nation’s immigration laws.” In doing so, USCIS was tasked with implementing the DACA process and adjudicating these requests for deferred action. As explained by then-Secretary Napolitano, the DACA process supports DHS-wide efforts to efficiently prioritize overall enforcement resources through the removal of criminals, recent border crossers, and aliens who pose a threat to national security and public safety, while recognizing humanitarian principles embedded within our immigration laws. The individuals who could be considered for DACA “lacked the intent to violate the law” because they were “young people brought to this country as children[.]” She further explained such children and young adults could be considered, on a case-by-case basis, for deferred action if they met the guidelines, passed a criminal background check, and lived in the U.S. continuously for five years. Secretary Napolitano explained that DACA was part of “additional measures to ensure that [DHS’s] enforcement resources [were] not expended on these low priority cases but [were] instead appropriately focused on people who meet [DHS’s] enforcement priorities.” *See* Exhibit A (June 15, 2012 Memorandum, “Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children,” (hereinafter “the Napolitano Memo”)).

11. Under DACA, aliens brought to the United States as children before the age of 16 and who are determined to meet other certain guidelines, including continuous residence in the United States since June 15, 2007, can be considered for deferred action on a case-by-case basis.²

² The guidelines for DACA under the Napolitano Memo include: 1) being under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012; 2) entering the U.S. before reaching the age of 16; 3) continuously residing in the U.S. since June 15, 2007 to the present time; 4) being physically present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012 and at the time of making the request for

Requestors who meet the guidelines are not automatically granted deferred action under DACA. Rather, each initial DACA request is individually considered, wherein an adjudicator must determine whether a requestor meets the guidelines and whether there are other factors that might adversely impact the favorable exercise of discretion.

12. In addition to satisfying the DACA guidelines, requestors must submit to, and pay for, a background check. Information discovered in the background check process is also considered in the overall discretionary analysis. If granted, the period of deferred action under the existing DACA program is—depending on the date of the grant—two or three years.³ Requestors simultaneously apply for employment authorization, although the application for employment authorization is not adjudicated until a decision is made on the underlying DACA request.

13. Procedurally, the review and adjudication of an initial request for deferred action under DACA is a multi-step, case-specific process described in greater detail below. The process begins with the request being mailed to a USCIS lockbox, which then reviews requests for completeness. Following review at the lock-box stage, those requests that are not rejected (as briefly described below) are sent to one of the four USCIS Service Centers for further substantive processing. Once a case arrives at a Service Center, a specially trained USCIS adjudicator is assigned to determine whether the requestor satisfies the DACA guidelines and ultimately determine whether a request should be approved or denied.

consideration for DACA; 5) having no lawful status on June 15, 2012; 6) being currently in school, having graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, having obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, or being an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and, 7) having not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and not otherwise posing a threat to national security or public safety.

³ The 2012 Napolitano Memo directed USCIS to issue two-year periods of deferred action under DACA. Pursuant to the November, 20, 2014 memo issued by Secretary Johnson, as of November 24, 2014, all first-time DACA requests and requests for renewals now receive a three-year period of deferred action.

14. Unlike a “denial,” a DACA request is “rejected” when the lockbox determines upon intake that the request has a fatal flaw, such as failure to submit the required fee,⁴ failure to sign the request, illegible or missing required fields on the form, or it is clear that the requestor does not satisfy the age guidelines.

15. A DACA request is “denied” when a USCIS adjudicator, on a case-by-case basis, determines that the requestor has not demonstrated that they satisfy the guidelines for DACA or when an adjudicator determines that deferred action should be denied even though the threshold guidelines are met. Both scenarios necessarily involve the consideration of and exercise of USCIS’s discretion.

16. Adjudicators evaluate the evidence each requestor submits in conjunction with the relevant DACA guidelines, assess the appropriate weight to accord such evidence, and ultimately determine whether the evidence is sufficient to satisfy the guidelines. Adjudicators must utilize judgment in determining weight accorded to the submitted evidence.

17. Where a guideline is not prescriptive, USCIS must also exercise significant discretion in determining whether that guideline, and the requestor’s case in relation to that guideline, counsels for or against a grant of deferred action. For example, one of the DACA guidelines is that the requestor “has not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise poses a threat to national security or public safety.” *See* Exhibit A, at 1. While determining whether a requestor has been convicted of a felony is straightforward, determining whether a requestor “poses a threat to national security or public safety” necessarily involves the exercise of the agency’s discretion.

⁴ Very limited fee exemptions are considered. *See* Exhibit B (FAQ 8).

18. Even if it is determined that a requestor has satisfied the threshold DACA guidelines, USCIS may exercise discretion to deny a request where other factors make the grant of deferred action inappropriate. For example, if the DACA requestor is believed to have submitted false statements or attempted to commit fraud in a prior application or petition, USCIS has denied DACA even when all the DACA guidelines, including public safety considerations, have been met. As another example, when USCIS learned that a DACA requestor falsely claimed to be a U.S. citizen and had prior removals, as an exercise of discretion, USCIS denied the request even though those issues are not specifically part of the DACA guidelines.

19. Under current DACA procedures, denials issued solely on discretionary grounds, including for national security and public safety reasons, are generally required to undergo review by USCIS headquarters. There is an exception to that requirement for cases involving gang affiliation—where such affiliation is confirmed by interview—and those cases may be denied without further guidance from USCIS headquarters. After an adjudicator in a USCIS Service Center determines that, in his or her discretion, a request should be denied for purely discretionary reasons, the adjudicator may send to USCIS headquarters a “Request for Adjudicative Guidance,” which summarizes the case, usually recommends a denial for discretionary reasons, and seeks concurrence or guidance before rendering a final decision. This process has been established to allow USCIS to ensure consistency and avoid arbitrary decisions regarding discretionary denials.

20. Adjudicators have the authority to verify documents, facts, and statements provided by the requestor by contacting educational institutions, other government agencies, employers, or other entities. *See* Exhibit B (USCIS Frequently Asked Questions for DACA Requestors (hereinafter DACA FAQs)), FAQ 21. In addition, adjudicators at the Service Centers may refer

a case for interview at a Field Office. *See* Exhibit C (redacted DACA interview notices).

Typically, an interview would be requested when the adjudicator determines, after careful review of the request and supporting documents, that a request is deniable, but potentially curable, with information that can best be received through an interview instead of requesting additional supporting documents. For example, where an adjudicator suspected a requestor was associated with a gang, an interview was conducted to question the requestor regarding this association.

21. An adjudicator may also issue a “Request for Evidence” (RFE) or a Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID) to require the requestor to submit additional evidence in support of the request for DACA. An RFE is issued when not all of the required initial evidence has been submitted or the adjudicator determines that the totality of the evidence submitted does not meet the DACA guidelines or other discretionary factors. A NOID is more appropriate than issuing an RFE when the officer intends to deny the request based on the evidence already submitted because the request does not appear to meet DACA guidelines or other discretionary factors, but the request is not necessarily incurable. Since August 15, 2012 through December 31, 2014, 188,767 RFEs and 6,496 NOIDs have been issued in the process of adjudicating DACA requests. Failure to respond may result in a denial. *See* Exhibit D (redacted DACA-related RFEs and NOIDs); Exhibit E. In addition, all DACA requestors must submit to background checks, and requests are denied if these background checks show that deferred action would be inappropriate. Information discovered in this process may be provided to ICE, CBP, and other law enforcement authorities for further action if appropriate. *See* Exhibit B (DACA FAQs 19 and 20).

22. If USCIS denies a DACA request, USCIS applies its policy guidance governing the referral of cases to ICE. Normally, if the case does not involve a criminal offense, fraud, or a threat to national security or public safety, the case is not referred to ICE for purposes of removal

proceedings. Many of the cases involving discretionary denials were referred to ICE due to public safety issues.

23. Since the inception of DACA through December 31, 2014, USCIS accepted as filed 727,164 initial requests for deferred action under DACA. An additional 43,174 requests were submitted to USCIS, but were rejected at the lockbox stage. Of the 727,164 initial requests that were accepted for filing, 638,897 were approved, 38,597 were ultimately denied, and the rest remain pending. All DACA requestors also submit applications for employment authorization. Of the 970,735 employment authorization applications received, 825,640 were approved.⁵ See Exhibit E.

24. The reasons for these 38,597 denials vary. Most were based on a determination that the requestor failed to meet certain threshold criteria, such as continuous residence in the United States. Other denials involved cases in which the deciding official exercised further judgment and discretion in applying the criteria set forth in the policy, including where individuals were determined to pose a public safety risk based on the individual circumstances of the case. For example, DACA requests have been denied for discretionary public safety reasons because the requestor was suspected of gang membership or gang-related activity, had a series of arrests without convictions, arrests resulting in pre-trial diversionary programs, or ongoing criminal investigations. Requests have also been denied on the basis that deferred action was not appropriate for other reasons not expressly set forth in 2012 DACA Memorandum, such as evidence of immigration fraud. See *supra* ¶ 18 (citing examples). Until very recently, USCIS

⁵ The total number of employment authorization document application receipts is higher than the number of DACA requests because USCIS systems do not distinguish between employment authorization document applications made by initial requestors, renewal requestors, or those seeking to replace an employment authorization document.

lacked any ability to automatically track and sort the reasons for DACA denials, and it still lacks the ability to do so for all DACA denials except for very recent ones.

25. DACA is funded exclusively through the fees requestors submit with their DACA request. No Congressional appropriations are used to administer DACA.

**2014 DACA Modifications and
Deferred Action for Parents of U.S. Citizens and LPRs (DAPA)**

26. On November 20, 2014, Secretary Johnson issued a memorandum directing DHS to implement certain modifications to DACA and to create a process for certain parents of U.S. Citizens and LPRs to apply for deferred action (DAPA). The DACA modifications include: (1) allowing individuals over 31 to request deferred action; (2) increasing the period of deferred action and work authorization from two to three years; and (3) adjusting the date regarding the beginning of the continuous residence period from June 15, 2007 to January 1, 2010. These modifications will not change the case-by-case process for reviewing DACA requests described above. USCIS is in the process of determining the procedures for reviewing requests under DAPA, and thus USCIS has not yet determined whether the process to adjudicate DAPA requests will be similar to the DACA process. However, as with DACA, DAPA will be funded through fees submitted by requestors, and USCIS will not use Congressional appropriations to administer DAPA.

27. The 2014 DACA modifications and DAPA do not restrict the longstanding authority of USCIS to grant deferred action in the exercise of its discretion. Accordingly, if a requestor is denied DACA or DAPA, USCIS may consider deferred action for the requestor if such action is considered appropriate in the agency's discretion. *See* Exhibit B (DACA FAQ 71).

28. USCIS has taken some steps to implement the expanded DACA and DAPA, such as securing adequate office space and beginning to develop a form, among others. In taking these

steps, USCIS has counted on receiving the fees that will be generated by requestors when submissions commence in February for DACA and May 2015 for DAPA. USCIS has carefully calibrated expenses incurred in light of anticipated revenues to ensure the continuing fiscal integrity of our budget. USCIS's budget contemplates that we will begin receiving fees from requestors soon to cover some of the expenses we have already incurred and fund the process as it continues to go forward.

29. Based on our experience implementing DACA in 2012, we anticipate that fewer than the total number of estimated persons who might meet the guidelines for DAPA would submit requests. The total estimated population for DACA was projected to be approximately 1.2 million individuals in 2012. To date, approximately 720,000 initial DACA requests, or roughly 60% of the total estimated population, have been received by the agency. The projected total population for DAPA is estimated at approximately 3.85 million. USCIS currently anticipates approximately 50% of this population will submit requests in the 18-month period after USCIS begins accepting requests.

30. As the foregoing paragraphs explain, the DACA program requires case-by-case consideration of each request and provides for individualized adjudicatory judgment and discretion. Each case is first reviewed by lockbox contractors who reject requests that are incomplete. All non-rejected cases are then forwarded to a USCIS Service Center for a case-by-case review. Upon careful review of the case, adjudicators regularly issue RFEs and NOIDs for additional evidence, where after initially reviewing the request, adjudicators determine the request is deniable, but also curable with additional evidence. In making a decision on each case, adjudicators must carefully evaluate the weight of the submitted evidence to ensure compliance with the discretionary guidelines broadly outlined by the Secretary when establishing DACA.

They must also make determinations on individual requests based on non-prescriptive guidelines such as “public safety” and “national security.” Finally, in DACA, USCIS exercises its discretion by otherwise denying a request where other factors not included in the guidelines would make the grant of deferred action inappropriate.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30th day of January of 2015.

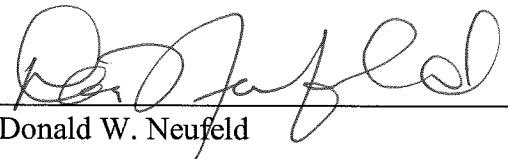

Donald W. Neufeld

EXHIBIT A

Secretary

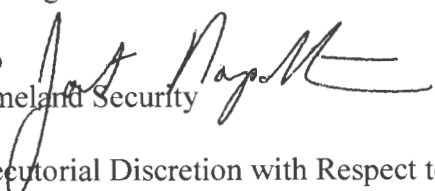
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528**Homeland
Security**

June 15, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: David V. Aguilar
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Alejandro Mayorkas
Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

John Morton
Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

FROM: Janet Napolitano 
Secretary of Homeland Security

SUBJECT: Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals
Who Came to the United States as Children

By this memorandum, I am setting forth how, in the exercise of our prosecutorial discretion, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should enforce the Nation's immigration laws against certain young people who were brought to this country as children and know only this country as home. As a general matter, these individuals lacked the intent to violate the law and our ongoing review of pending removal cases is already offering administrative closure to many of them. However, additional measures are necessary to ensure that our enforcement resources are not expended on these low priority cases but are instead appropriately focused on people who meet our enforcement priorities.

The following criteria should be satisfied before an individual is considered for an exercise of prosecutorial discretion pursuant to this memorandum:

- came to the United States under the age of sixteen;
- has continuously resided in the United States for a least five years preceding the date of this memorandum and is present in the United States on the date of this memorandum;
- is currently in school, has graduated from high school, has obtained a general education development certificate, or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States;
- has not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise poses a threat to national security or public safety; and
- is not above the age of thirty.

Our Nation's immigration laws must be enforced in a strong and sensible manner. They are not designed to be blindly enforced without consideration given to the individual circumstances of each case. Nor are they designed to remove productive young people to countries where they may not have lived or even speak the language. Indeed, many of these young people have already contributed to our country in significant ways. Prosecutorial discretion, which is used in so many other areas, is especially justified here.

As part of this exercise of prosecutorial discretion, the above criteria are to be considered whether or not an individual is already in removal proceedings or subject to a final order of removal. No individual should receive deferred action under this memorandum unless they first pass a background check and requests for relief pursuant to this memorandum are to be decided on a case by case basis. DHS cannot provide any assurance that relief will be granted in all cases.

1. With respect to individuals who are encountered by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS):

- With respect to individuals who meet the above criteria, ICE and CBP should immediately exercise their discretion, on an individual basis, in order to prevent low priority individuals from being placed into removal proceedings or removed from the United States.
- USCIS is instructed to implement this memorandum consistent with its existing guidance regarding the issuance of notices to appear.

2. With respect to individuals who are in removal proceedings but not yet subject to a final order of removal, and who meet the above criteria:

- ICE should exercise prosecutorial discretion, on an individual basis, for individuals who meet the above criteria by deferring action for a period of two years, subject to renewal, in order to prevent low priority individuals from being removed from the United States.
- ICE is instructed to use its Office of the Public Advocate to permit individuals who believe they meet the above criteria to identify themselves through a clear and efficient process.
- ICE is directed to begin implementing this process within 60 days of the date of this memorandum.
- ICE is also instructed to immediately begin the process of deferring action against individuals who meet the above criteria whose cases have already been identified through the ongoing review of pending cases before the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

3. With respect to the individuals who are not currently in removal proceedings and meet the above criteria, and pass a background check:

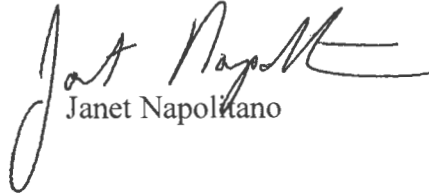
- USCIS should establish a clear and efficient process for exercising prosecutorial discretion, on an individual basis, by deferring action against individuals who meet the

above criteria and are at least 15 years old, for a period of two years, subject to renewal, in order to prevent low priority individuals from being placed into removal proceedings or removed from the United States.

- The USCIS process shall also be available to individuals subject to a final order of removal regardless of their age.
- USCIS is directed to begin implementing this process within 60 days of the date of this memorandum.

For individuals who are granted deferred action by either ICE or USCIS, USCIS shall accept applications to determine whether these individuals qualify for work authorization during this period of deferred action.

This memorandum confers no substantive right, immigration status or pathway to citizenship. Only the Congress, acting through its legislative authority, can confer these rights. It remains for the executive branch, however, to set forth policy for the exercise of discretion within the framework of the existing law. I have done so here.



Janet Napolitano

EXHIBIT B



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Frequently Asked Questions

FAQs updated Oct. 23, 2014

General Information for All Requestors

- **What is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals?**
- **DACA Process**
- **Background Checks**
- **After USCIS Makes a Decision**

Initial Requests for DACA

Renewal of DACA

Travel

Criminal Convictions

Miscellaneous

I. General Information for All Requestors

A. What is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals?

Over the past several years, this Administration has undertaken an unprecedented effort to transform the immigration enforcement system into one that focuses on national security, public safety, border security and the integrity of the immigration system. As the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continues to focus its enforcement resources on the removal of individuals who pose a danger to national security or a risk to public safety, DHS will exercise prosecutorial discretion as appropriate to ensure that enforcement resources are not expended on low priority cases, such as individuals who came to the United States as children and meet other key guidelines. Individuals who demonstrate that they meet the guidelines below may request consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) for a period of three years, subject to renewal for a period of three years, and may be eligible for employment authorization.

You may request consideration of DACA if you:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012, meaning that:
 - You never had a lawful immigration status on or before June 15, 2012, or
 - Any lawful immigration status or parole that you obtained prior to June 15, 2012, had expired as of June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Individuals can call U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at 1-800-375-5283 with questions or to request more information on DACA. Those with pending requests can also use a number of online self-help tools which include the ability to check case status and processing times, change your address, and send an inquiry about a case pending longer than posted processing times or non-delivery of a card or document.

Q1: What is deferred action?

A1: Deferred action is a discretionary determination to defer a removal action of an individual as an act of prosecutorial discretion. For purposes of future inadmissibility based upon **unlawful presence**, an individual whose case has been deferred is not considered to be unlawfully present during the period in which deferred action is in effect. An individual who has received deferred action is authorized by DHS to be present in the United States, and is therefore considered by DHS to be lawfully present during the period deferred action is in effect. However, deferred action does not confer **lawful status** upon an individual, nor does it excuse any previous or subsequent periods of unlawful presence.

Under existing regulations, an individual whose case has been deferred is eligible to receive employment authorization for the period of deferred action, provided he or she can demonstrate "an economic necessity for employment." DHS can terminate or renew deferred action at any time, at the agency's discretion.

Q2: What is DACA?

A2: On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several key guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of three years, subject to renewal, and would then be eligible for work authorization.

Individuals who can demonstrate through verifiable documentation that they meet these guidelines will be considered for deferred action. Determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis under the DACA guidelines.

Q3: Is there any difference between “deferred action” and DACA under this process?

A3: DACA is one form of deferred action. The relief an individual receives under DACA is identical for immigration purposes to the relief obtained by any person who receives deferred action as an act of prosecutorial discretion.

Q4: If my removal is deferred under the consideration of DACA, am I eligible for employment authorization?

A4: Yes. Under existing regulations, if your case is deferred, you may obtain employment authorization from USCIS provided you can demonstrate an economic necessity for employment.

Q5: If my case is deferred, am I in lawful status for the period of deferral?

A5: No. Although action on your case has been deferred and you do not accrue unlawful presence (for admissibility purposes) during the period of deferred action, deferred action does not confer any lawful status.

The fact that you are not accruing unlawful presence does not change whether you are in lawful status while you remain in the United States. However, although deferred action does not confer a lawful immigration status, your period of stay is authorized by the Department of Homeland Security while your deferred action is in effect and, for admissibility purposes, you are considered to be lawfully present in the United States during that time. **Individuals granted deferred action are not precluded by federal law from establishing domicile in the U.S.**

Apart from the immigration laws, “lawful presence,” “lawful status” and similar terms are used in various other federal and state laws. For information on how those laws affect individuals who receive a favorable exercise of prosecutorial discretion under DACA, please contact the appropriate federal, state or local authorities.

Q6: Can I renew my period of deferred action and employment authorization under DACA?

A6: Yes. You may request consideration for a renewal of your DACA. Your request for a renewal will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If USCIS renews its exercise of discretion under DACA for your case, you will receive deferred action for another three years, and if you demonstrate an economic necessity for employment, you may receive employment authorization throughout that period.

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B. DACA Process**Q7: How do I request consideration of DACA?**

A7: To request consideration of DACA (either as an initial request or to request a renewal), you must submit Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals to USCIS. Please visit www.uscis.gov/i-821d before you begin the process to make sure you are using the most current version of the form available. This form must be completed, properly signed and accompanied by a Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, and a Form I-765WS, Worksheet, establishing your economic need for employment. If you fail to submit a completed Form I-765 (along with the accompanying filing fees for that form, totaling \$465), USCIS will not consider your request for deferred action. Please read the form instructions to ensure that you answer the appropriate questions (determined by whether you are submitting an initial or renewal request) and that you submit all the required documentation to support your initial request.

You must file your request for consideration of DACA at the USCIS Lockbox. You can find the mailing address and instructions at www.uscis.gov/i-821d. As of June 5, 2014, requestors must use the new version of the form. After your Form I-821D, Form I-765, and Form I-765 Worksheet have been received, USCIS will review them for completeness, including submission of the required fee, initial evidence and supporting documents (for initial filings).

If it is determined that the request is complete, USCIS will send you a receipt notice. USCIS will then send you an appointment notice to visit an Application Support Center (ASC) for biometric services, if an appointment is required. Please make sure you read and follow the directions in the notice. Failure to attend your biometrics appointment may delay processing of your request for consideration of deferred action, or may result in a denial of your request. You may also choose to receive an email and/or text message notifying you that your form has been accepted by completing a Form G-1145, E-Notification of Application/Petition Acceptance.

Each request for consideration of DACA will be reviewed on an individual, case-by-case basis. USCIS may request more information or evidence from you, or request that you appear at a USCIS office. USCIS will notify you of its determination in writing.

Note: All individuals who believe they meet the guidelines, including those in removal proceedings, with a final removal order, or with a voluntary departure order (and not in immigration detention), may affirmatively request consideration of DACA from USCIS through this process. Individuals who are currently in immigration detention and believe they meet the guidelines may not request consideration of deferred action from USCIS but may identify themselves to their deportation officer or Jail Liaison. You may also contact the ICE Field Office Director. For more information visit ICE's website at www.ice.gov/daca.

Q8: Can I obtain a fee waiver or fee exemption for this process?

A8: There are no fee waivers available for employment authorization applications connected to DACA. There are very limited fee exemptions available. Requests for fee exemptions must be filed and favorably adjudicated before an individual files his/her request for consideration of DACA without a fee. In order to be considered for a fee exemption, you must submit a letter and supporting documentation to USCIS demonstrating that you meet one of the following conditions:

- You are under 18 years of age, have an income that is less than 150 percent of the U.S. poverty level, and are in foster care or otherwise lacking any parental or other familial support; or
- You are under 18 years of age and homeless; or
- You cannot care for yourself because you suffer from a serious, chronic disability and your income is less than 150 percent of the U.S. poverty level; or,
- You have, at the time of the request, accumulated **\$10,000** or more in debt in the past 12 months as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses for yourself or an immediate family member, and your income is less than 150 percent of the U.S. poverty level.

You can find additional information on our Fee Exemption Guidance Web page. Your request must be submitted and decided before you submit a request for consideration of DACA without a fee. In order to be considered for a fee exemption, you must provide documentary evidence to demonstrate that you meet any of the above conditions at the time that you make the request. For evidence, USCIS will:

- Accept affidavits from community-based or religious organizations to establish a requestor's homelessness or lack of parental or other familial financial support.
- Accept copies of tax returns, bank statement, pay stubs, or other reliable evidence of income level. Evidence can also include an affidavit from the applicant or a responsible third party attesting that the applicant does not file tax returns, has no bank accounts, and/or has no income to prove income level.
- Accept copies of medical records, insurance records, bank statements, or other reliable evidence of unreimbursed medical expenses of at least **\$10,000**.
- Address factual questions through Requests for Evidence (RFEs).

Q9: If individuals meet the guidelines for consideration of DACA and are encountered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), will they be placed into removal proceedings?

A9: DACA is intended, in part, to allow CBP and ICE to focus on priority cases. Under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, if an individual meets the guidelines for DACA, CBP or ICE should exercise their discretion on a case-by-case basis to prevent qualifying individuals from being apprehended, placed into removal proceedings, or removed. If individuals believe that, in light of this policy, they should not have been apprehended or placed into removal proceedings, contact the Law Enforcement Support Center's hotline at 1-855-448-6903 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Q10: Does this process apply to me if I am currently in removal proceedings, have a final removal order, or have a voluntary departure order?

A10: This process is open to any individual who can demonstrate he or she meets the guidelines for consideration, including those who have never been in removal proceedings as well as those in removal proceedings, with a final order, or with a voluntary departure order (as long as they are not in immigration detention).

Q11: If I am not in removal proceedings but believe I meet the guidelines for consideration of DACA, should I seek to place myself into removal proceedings through encounters with CBP or ICE?

A11: No. If you are not in removal proceedings but believe that you meet the guidelines, you should submit your DACA request to USCIS under the process outlined below.

Q12: Can I request consideration of DACA from USCIS if I am in immigration detention under the custody of ICE?

A12: No. If you are currently in immigration detention, you may not request consideration of DACA from USCIS. If you think you may meet the guidelines of this process, you should identify yourself to your deportation officer or Jail Liaison. You may also contact the ICE Field Office Director. For more information, visit ICE's website at www.ice.gov/daca.

Q13: If I am about to be removed by ICE and believe that I meet the guidelines for consideration of DACA, what steps should I take to seek review of my case before removal?

A13: If you believe you can demonstrate that you meet the guidelines and are about to be removed, you should immediately contact the Law Enforcement Support Center's hotline at 1-855-448-6903 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Q14: What should I do if I meet the guidelines of this process and have been issued an ICE detainer following an arrest by a state or local law enforcement officer?

A14: If you meet the guidelines and have been served a detainer, you should immediately contact the Law Enforcement Support Center's hotline at 1-855-448-6903 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Q15: If I accepted an offer of administrative closure under the case-by-case review process or my case was terminated as part of the case-by-case review process, can I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A15: Yes. If you can demonstrate that you meet the guidelines, you will be able to request consideration of DACA even if you have accepted an offer of administrative closure or termination under the case-by-case review process.

Q16: If I declined an offer of administrative closure under the case-by-case review process, can I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A16: Yes. If you can demonstrate that you meet the guidelines, you will be able to request consideration of DACA even if you declined an offer of administrative closure under the case-by-case review process.

Q17: If my case was reviewed as part of the case-by-case review process but I was not offered administrative closure, can I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A17: Yes. If you can demonstrate that you meet the guidelines, you will be able to request consideration of DACA even if you were not offered administrative closure following review of your case as part of the case-by-case review process.

Q18: Can I request consideration of DACA under this process if I am currently in a nonimmigrant status (e.g. F-1, E-2, H-4) or have Temporary Protected Status (TPS)?

A18: No. You can only request consideration of DACA under this process if you currently have no immigration status and were not in any lawful status on June 15, 2012.

Q19: Will the information I share in my request for consideration of DACA be used for immigration enforcement purposes?

A19: Information provided in this request is protected from disclosure to ICE and CBP for the purpose of immigration enforcement proceedings unless the requestor meets the criteria for the issuance of a Notice To Appear or a referral to ICE under the criteria set forth in USCIS' Notice to Appear guidance (www.uscis.gov/NTA). Individuals whose cases are deferred pursuant to DACA will not be referred to ICE. The information may be shared with national security and law enforcement agencies, including ICE and CBP, for purposes other than removal, including for assistance in the consideration of DACA, to identify or prevent fraudulent claims, for national security purposes, or for the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense. The above information sharing policy covers family members and guardians, in addition to the requestor. This policy, which may be modified, superseded, or rescinded at any time without notice, is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law by any party in any administrative, civil, or criminal matter.

Q20: If my case is referred to ICE for immigration enforcement purposes or if I receive an NTA, will information related to my family members and guardians also be referred to ICE for immigration enforcement purposes?

A20: If your case is referred to ICE for purposes of immigration enforcement or you receive an NTA, information related to your family members or guardians that is contained in your request will not be referred to ICE for purposes of immigration enforcement against family members or guardians. However, that information may be shared with national security and law enforcement agencies, including ICE and CBP, for purposes other than removal, including for assistance in the consideration of DACA, to identify or prevent fraudulent claims, for national security purposes, or for the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense.

This policy, which may be modified, superseded, or rescinded at any time without notice, is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any party in any administrative, civil, or criminal matter.

Q21: Will USCIS verify documents or statements that I provide in support of a request for DACA?

A21: USCIS has the authority to verify documents, facts, and statements that are provided in support of requests for DACA. USCIS may contact education institutions, other government agencies, employers, or other entities in order to verify information.

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C. Background Checks

Q22: Will USCIS conduct a background check when reviewing my request for consideration of DACA?

A22: Yes. You must undergo biographic and biometric background checks before USCIS will consider your DACA request.

Q23: What do background checks involve?

A23: Background checks involve checking biographic and biometric information provided by the individuals against a variety of databases maintained by DHS and other federal government agencies.

Q24: What steps will USCIS and ICE take if I engage in fraud through the new process?

A24: If you knowingly make a misrepresentation, or knowingly fail to disclose facts, in an effort to obtain DACA or work authorization through this process, you will be treated as an immigration enforcement priority to the fullest extent permitted by law, and be subject to criminal prosecution and/or removal from the United States.

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D. After USCIS Makes a Decision

Q25: Can I appeal USCIS' determination?

A25: No. You cannot file a motion to reopen or reconsider, and cannot appeal the decision if USCIS denies your request for consideration of DACA.

You may request a review of your I-821D denial by contacting USCIS' Call Centers at 1-800-375-5283 to have a service request created if you believe that you actually did meet all of the DACA guidelines and you believe that your request was denied due to one of the following errors:

- Denied the request based on abandonment, when you actually responded to an RFE or NOID within the prescribed time;
- Mailed the RFE or NOID to the wrong address although you had submitted a Form AR-11, Change of Address, or changed your address online at www.uscis.gov before USCIS issued the RFE or NOID;
- Denied the request on the grounds that you did not come to the United States prior to your 16th birthday, but the evidence submitted **at the time of filing** shows that you did arrive before reaching that age;
- Denied the request on the grounds that you were under age 15 **at the time of filing** but not in removal proceedings, while the evidence submitted **at the time of filing** show that you indeed were in removal proceedings when the request was filed;
- Denied the request on the grounds that you were 31 or older as of June 15, 2012, but the evidence submitted **at the time of filing** shows that you were **under the age of 31** as of June 15, 2012;
- Denied the request on the grounds that you had lawful status on June 15, 2012, but the evidence submitted **at the time of filing** shows that you indeed were in an **unlawful** immigration status on that date;
- Denied the request on the grounds that you were not physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and up through the date of filing, but the evidence submitted **at the time of filing** shows that you were, in fact, present;

- Denied the request due to your failure to appear at a USCIS ASC to have your biometrics collected, when you in fact either did appear at a USCIS ASC to have this done or requested prior to the scheduled date of your biometrics appointment to have the appointment rescheduled; or
- Denied the request because you did not pay the filing fees for Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, when you actually did pay these fees.

If you believe your request was denied due to any of these administrative errors, you may contact our National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or 1-800-767-1833 (TDD for the hearing impaired). Customer service officers are available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. in each U.S. time zone.

Q26: If USCIS does not exercise deferred action in my case, will I be placed in removal proceedings?

A26: If you have submitted a request for consideration of DACA and USCIS decides not to defer action in your case, USCIS will apply its policy guidance governing the referral of cases to ICE and the issuance of Notices to Appear (NTA). If your case does not involve a criminal offense, fraud, or a threat to national security or public safety, your case will not be referred to ICE for purposes of removal proceedings except where DHS determines there are exceptional circumstances. For more detailed information on the applicable NTA policy, visit www.uscis.gov/NTA. If after a review of the totality of circumstances USCIS determines to defer action in your case, USCIS will likewise exercise its discretion and will not issue you an NTA.

Q27: Can my deferred action under the DACA process be terminated before it expires?

A27: Yes.

DACA is an exercise of prosecutorial discretion and deferred action may be terminated at any time, with or without a Notice of Intent to Terminate, at DHS's discretion.

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II. Initial Requests for DACA

Q28: What guidelines must I meet to be considered for deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA)?

A28: Under the Secretary of Homeland Security's June 15, 2012 memorandum, in order to be considered for DACA, you must submit evidence, including supporting documents, showing that you:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

These guidelines must be met for consideration of DACA. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) retains the ultimate discretion to determine whether deferred action is appropriate in any given case even if the guidelines are met.

Q29: How old must I be in order to be considered for deferred action under this process?

A29:

- If you have never been in removal proceedings, or your proceedings have been terminated before your request for consideration of DACA, you must be at least 15 years of age or older at the time of filing and meet the other guidelines.
- If you are in removal proceedings, have a final removal order, or have a voluntary departure order, and are not in immigration detention, you can request consideration of DACA even if you are under the age of 15 at the time of filing and meet the other guidelines.
- In all instances, you must have been under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012, to be considered for DACA.

Q30: I first came to the United States before I turned 16 years old and have been continuously residing in the United States since at least June 15, 2007. Before I turned 16 years old, however, I left the United States for some period of time before returning and beginning my current period of continuous residence. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A30: Yes, but only if you established residence in the United States during the period before you turned 16 years old, as evidenced, for example, by records showing you attended school or worked in the United States during that time, or that you lived in the United States for multiple years during that time. In addition to establishing that you initially resided in the United States before you turned 16 years old, you must also have maintained continuous residence in the United States from June 15, 2007, until the present time to be considered for deferred action under this process.

Q31: To prove my continuous residence in the United States since June 15, 2007, must I provide evidence documenting my presence for every day, or every month, of that period?

A31: To meet the continuous residence guideline, you must submit documentation that shows you have been living in the United States from June 15, 2007, up until the time of your request. You should provide documentation to account for as much of the period

as reasonably possible, but there is no requirement that every day or month of that period be specifically accounted for through direct evidence.

It is helpful to USCIS if you can submit evidence of your residence during at least each year of the period. USCIS will review the documentation in its totality to determine whether it is more likely than not that you were continuously residing in the United States for the period since June 15, 2007. Gaps in the documentation as to certain periods may raise doubts as to your continued residence if, for example, the gaps are lengthy or the record otherwise indicates that you may have been outside the United States for a period of time that was not brief, casual or innocent.

If gaps in your documentation raise questions, USCIS may issue a Request for Evidence to allow you to submit additional documentation that supports your claimed continuous residence.

Affidavits may be submitted to explain a gap in the documentation demonstrating that you meet the five-year continuous residence requirement. If you submit affidavits related to the continuous residence requirement, you must submit two or more affidavits, sworn to or affirmed by people other than yourself who have direct personal knowledge of the events and circumstances during the period as to which there is a gap in the documentation. Affidavits may only be used to explain gaps in your continuous residence; they cannot be used as evidence that you meet the entire five-year continuous residence requirement.

Q32: Does “currently in school” refer to the date on which the request for consideration of deferred action is filed?

A32: To be considered “currently in school” under the guidelines, you must be enrolled in school on the date you submit a request for consideration of deferred action under this process.

Q33: Who is considered to be “currently in school” under the guidelines?

A33: To be considered “currently in school” under the guidelines, you must be enrolled in:

- a public, private, or charter elementary school, junior high or middle school, high school, secondary school, alternative program, or homeschool program that meets state requirements;
- an education, literacy, or career training program (including vocational training) that has a purpose of improving literacy, mathematics, or English or is designed to lead to placement in postsecondary education, job training, or employment and where you are working toward such placement; or
- an education program assisting students either in obtaining a regular high school diploma or its recognized equivalent under state law (including a certificate of completion, certificate of attendance, or alternate award), or in passing a GED exam or other state-authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC) in the United States.

Such education, literacy, career training programs (including vocational training), or education programs assisting students in obtaining a regular high school diploma or its recognized equivalent under state law, or in passing a GED exam or other state-authorized exam in the United States, include, but are not limited to, programs funded, in whole or in part, by federal, state, county or municipal grants or administered by non-profit organizations. Programs funded by other sources may qualify if they are programs of demonstrated effectiveness.

In assessing whether such programs not funded in whole or in part by federal, state, county or municipal grants or administered by non-profit organizations are of demonstrated effectiveness, USCIS will consider the duration of the program's existence; the program's track record in assisting students in obtaining a regular high school diploma or its recognized equivalent, in passing a GED or other state-authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC), or in placing students in postsecondary education, job training, or employment; and other indicators of the program's overall quality. For individuals seeking to demonstrate that they are “currently in school” through enrollment in such a program, the burden is on the requestor to show the program's demonstrated effectiveness.

Q34: How do I establish that I am currently in school?

A34: Documentation sufficient for you to demonstrate that you are currently in school may include, but is not limited to:

- evidence that you are enrolled in a public, private, or charter elementary school, junior high or middle school, high school or secondary school; alternative program, or homeschool program that meets state requirements; or
- evidence that you are enrolled in an education, literacy, or career training program (including vocational training) that:
 - has a purpose of improving literacy, mathematics, or English, or is designed to lead to placement in postsecondary education, job training, or employment and where you are working toward such placement; and
 - is funded, in whole or in part, by federal, state, county or municipal grants or is administered by non-profit organizations, or if funded by other sources, is a program of demonstrated effectiveness; or
- evidence that you are enrolled in an education program assisting students in obtaining a high school equivalency diploma or certificate recognized under state law (such as by passing a GED exam or other such state-authorized exam [for example, HiSet or TASC]), and that the program is funded in whole or in part by federal, state, county or municipal grants or is administered by non-profit organizations or if funded by other sources, is of demonstrated effectiveness.

Such evidence of enrollment may include: acceptance letters, school registration cards, letters from a school or program, transcripts, report cards, or progress reports which may show the name of the school or program, date of enrollment, and current educational or grade level, if relevant.

Q35: What documentation may be sufficient to demonstrate that I have graduated from high school?

A35: Documentation sufficient for you to demonstrate that you have graduated from high school may include, but is not limited to, a high school diploma from a public or private high school or secondary school, a certificate of completion, a certificate of attendance, or an alternate award from a public or private high school or secondary school, or a recognized equivalent of a high school diploma

under state law, or a GED certificate or certificate from passing another such state authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC) in the United States.

Q36: What documentation may be sufficient to demonstrate that I have obtained a GED certificate or certificate from passing another such state authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC)?

A36: Documentation may include, but is not limited to, evidence that you have passed a GED exam, or other state-authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC), and, as a result, have received the recognized equivalent of a regular high school diploma under state law.

Q37: If I am enrolled in a literacy or career training program, can I meet the guidelines?

A37: Yes, in certain circumstances. You may meet the guidelines if you are enrolled in an education, literacy, or career training program that has a purpose of improving literacy, mathematics, or English or is designed to lead to placement in postsecondary education, job training, or employment and where you are working toward such placement. Such programs include, but are not limited to, programs funded, in whole or in part, by federal, state, county or municipal grants or administered by non-profit organizations, or if funded by other sources, are programs of demonstrated effectiveness.

Q38: If I am enrolled in an English as a Second Language (ESL) program, can I meet the guidelines?

A38: Yes, in certain circumstances. Enrollment in an ESL program may be used to meet the guidelines if the ESL program is funded in whole or in part by federal, state, county or municipal grants, or administered by non-profit organizations, or if funded by other sources is a program of demonstrated effectiveness. You must submit direct documentary evidence that the program is funded in whole or part by federal, state, county or municipal grants, administered by a non-profit organization, or of demonstrated effectiveness.

Q39: Will USCIS consider evidence other than that listed in Chart #1 to show that I have met the education guidelines?

A39: No. Evidence not listed in Chart #1 will not be accepted to establish that you are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, or have obtained a GED or passed another state-authorized exam (e.g., HiSet or TASC). You must submit any of the documentary evidence listed in Chart #1 to show that you meet the education guidelines.

Q40: Will USCIS consider evidence other than that listed in Chart #1 to show that I have met certain initial guidelines?

A40: Evidence other than those documents listed in Chart #1 may be used to establish the following guidelines and factual showings if available documentary evidence is insufficient or lacking and shows that:

- You were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012;
- You came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
- You satisfy the continuous residence requirement, as long as you present direct evidence of your continued residence in the United States for a portion of the required period and the circumstantial evidence is used only to fill in gaps in the length of continuous residence demonstrated by the direct evidence; and
- Any travel outside the United States during the period of required continuous presence was brief, casual, and innocent.

However, USCIS will not accept evidence other than the documents listed in Chart #1 as proof of any of the following guidelines to demonstrate that you:

- Were under the age of 31 on June 15, 2012; and
- Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a GED certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States.

For example, even if you do not have documentary proof of your presence in the United States on June 15, 2012, you may still be able to satisfy the guideline. You may do so by submitting credible documentary evidence that you were present in the United States shortly before and shortly after June 15, 2012, which, under the facts presented, may give rise to an inference of your presence on June 15, 2012 as well. However, evidence other than that listed in Chart #1 will not be accepted to establish that you have graduated high school. You must submit the designated documentary evidence to satisfy that you meet this guideline.

Chart #1 provides examples of documentation you may submit to demonstrate you meet the initial guidelines for consideration of deferred action under this process. Please see the instructions of Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, for additional details of acceptable documentation.

Chart #1 Examples of Documents to Submit to Demonstrate You Meet the Guidelines

Proof of identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport or national identity document from your country of origin • Birth certificate with photo identification • School or military ID with photo • Any U.S. government immigration or other document bearing your name and photo
Proof you came to U.S. before your 16th birthday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport with admission stamp • Form I-94/I-95/I-94W • School records from the U.S. schools you have attended • Any Immigration and Naturalization Service or DHS document stating your date of entry (Form I-862, Notice to Appear) • Travel records • Hospital or medical records • Rent receipts or utility bills

Chart #1 Examples of Documents to Submit to Demonstrate You Meet the Guidelines

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment records (pay stubs, W-2 Forms, etc.) • Official records from a religious entity confirming participation in a religious ceremony • Copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country • Birth certificates of children born in the U.S. • Dated bank transactions • Automobile license receipts or registration • Deeds, mortgages, rental agreement contracts • Tax receipts, insurance policies
Proof of immigration status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form I-94/I-95/I-94W with authorized stay expiration date • Final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal issued as of June 15, 2012 • A charging document placing you into removal proceedings
Proof of presence in U.S. on June 15, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent receipts or utility bills • Employment records (pay stubs, W-2 Forms, etc.) • School records (letters, report cards, etc.) • Military records (Form DD-214 or NGB Form 22)
Proof you continuously resided in U.S. since June 15, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official records from a religious entity confirming participation in a religious ceremony • Copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country • Passport entries • Birth certificates of children born in the U.S. • Dated bank transactions • Automobile license receipts or registration
Proof of your education status at the time of requesting consideration of DACA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School records (letters, report cards, etc.) • Tax receipts, insurance policies • Deeds, mortgages, rental agreement contracts • U.S. high school diploma, certificate of completion, or other alternate award • High school equivalency diploma or certificate recognized under state law • Evidence that you passed a state-authorized exam, including the GED or other state-authorized exam (for example, HiSet or TASC) in the United States
Proof you are an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or the U.S. Coast Guard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty • NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service • Military personnel records • Military health records

Q41: May I file affidavits as proof that I meet the initial guidelines for consideration of DACA?

A41: Affidavits generally will not be sufficient on their own to demonstrate that you meet the guidelines for USCIS to consider you for DACA. However, affidavits may be used to support meeting the following guidelines only if the documentary evidence available to you is insufficient or lacking:

- Demonstrating that you meet the five year continuous residence requirement; and
- Establishing that departures during the required period of continuous residence were brief, casual and innocent.

If you submit affidavits related to the above criteria, you must submit two or more affidavits, sworn to or affirmed by people other than yourself, who have direct personal knowledge of the events and circumstances. Should USCIS determine that the affidavits are insufficient to overcome the unavailability or the lack of documentary evidence with respect to either of these guidelines, it will issue a Request for Evidence, indicating that further evidence must be submitted to demonstrate that you meet these guidelines.

USCIS will not accept affidavits as proof of satisfying the following guidelines:

- You are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion or other alternate award from high school, have obtained a high school equivalency diploma or certificate (such as by passing the GED exam or other state-authorized exam [for example, HiSet or TASC]), or are an honorably discharged veteran from the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States;
- You were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012;
- You came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
- You were under the age of 31 on June 15, 2012; and
- Your criminal history, if applicable.

If the only evidence you submit to demonstrate you meet any of the above guidelines is an affidavit, USCIS will issue a Request for Evidence, indicating that you have not demonstrated that you meet these guidelines and that you must do so in order to demonstrate that you meet that guideline.

Q42: Will I be considered to be in unlawful status if I had an application for asylum or cancellation of removal pending before either USCIS or the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) on June 15, 2012?

A42: Yes. If you had an application for asylum or cancellation of removal, or similar relief, pending before either USCIS or EOIR as of June 15, 2012, but had no lawful status, you may request consideration of DACA.

Q43: I was admitted for "duration of status" or for a period of time that extended past June 14, 2012, but violated my immigration status (e.g., by engaging in unauthorized employment, failing to report to my employer, or failing to pursue a full course of study) before June 15, 2012. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A43: No, unless the Executive Office for Immigration Review terminated your status by issuing a final order of removal against you before June 15, 2012.

Q44: I was admitted for "duration of status" or for a period of time that extended past June 14, 2012 but "aged out" of my dependent nonimmigrant status as of June 15, 2012. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A44: Yes. For purposes of satisfying the "had no lawful status on June 15, 2012," guideline alone, if you were admitted for "duration of status" or for a period of time that extended past June 14, 2012 but "aged out" of your dependent nonimmigrant status, on or before June 15, 2012, (meaning you turned 21 years old on or before June 15, 2012), you may be considered for deferred action under this process.

Q45: I was admitted for "duration of status" but my status in SEVIS is listed as terminated on or before June 15, 2012. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A45: Yes. For the purposes of satisfying the "had no lawful status on June 15, 2012," guideline alone, if your status as of June 15, 2012, is listed as "terminated" in SEVIS, you may be considered for deferred action under this process.

Q46: I am a Canadian citizen who was inspected by CBP but was not issued an I-94 at the time of admission. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A46: In general, a Canadian citizen who was admitted as a visitor for business or pleasure and not issued an I-94, Arrival/Departure Record, (also known as a "non-controlled" Canadian nonimmigrant) is lawfully admitted for a period of six months. For that reason, unless there is evidence, including verifiable evidence provided by the individual, that he or she was specifically advised that his or her admission would be for a different length of time, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will consider for DACA purposes only, that the alien was lawfully admitted for a period of six months. Therefore, if DHS is able to verify from its records that your last non-controlled entry occurred on or before Dec. 14, 2011, DHS will consider your nonimmigrant visitor status to have expired as of June 15, 2012 and you may be considered for deferred action under this process.

Q47: I used my Border Crossing Card (BCC) to obtain admission to the United States and was not issued an I-94 at the time of admission. May I be considered for deferred action under this process?

A47: Because the limitations on entry for a BCC holder vary based on location of admission and travel, DHS will assume that the BCC holder who was not provided an I-94 was admitted for the longest period legally possible—30 days—unless the individual can demonstrate, through verifiable evidence, that he or she was specifically advised that his or her admission would be for a different length of time. Accordingly, if DHS is able to verify from its records that your last admission was using a BCC, you were not issued an I-94 at the time of admission, and it occurred on or before May 14, 2012, DHS will consider your nonimmigrant visitor status to have expired as of June 15, 2012, and you may be considered for deferred action under this process.

Q48: Do I accrue unlawful presence if I have a pending initial request for consideration of DACA?

A48: You will continue to accrue unlawful presence while the request for consideration of DACA is pending unless you are under 18 years of age at the time of the request. If you are under 18 years of age at the time you submit your request, you will not accrue unlawful presence while the request is pending, even if you turn 18 while your request is pending with USCIS. If action on your case is deferred, you will not accrue unlawful presence during the period of deferred action. However, having action deferred on your case will not excuse previously accrued unlawful presence.

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III. Renewal of DACA

Q49: When should I file my renewal request with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)?

A49: USCIS strongly encourages you to submit your Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) renewal request between 150 days and 120 days before the expiration date located on your current Form I-797 DACA approval notice and Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Filing during this window will minimize the possibility that your current period of DACA will expire before you receive a decision on your renewal request. If you have filed your renewal request at least 120 days before your deferred action expires and USCIS is delayed in processing your renewal request, USCIS may provide you with DACA and employment authorization for up to an additional 120 days.

USCIS' current goal is to process DACA renewal requests within 120 days. However, you may submit an inquiry about the status of your renewal request after it has been pending more than 105 days. To submit an inquiry online, please visit <https://egov.uscis.gov/e-request>.

Please Note: USCIS will not provide any such short-term deferred action and employment authorization when USCIS is delayed in reaching a final decision on your renewal request because, for example: 1) of factors within your control (such as failure to file the renewal request within the suggested timeframe or filing an incomplete renewal request); 2) additional time is needed to resolve issues with background or security checks in your case; and/or 3) your renewal submission contained evidence that you may not satisfy the DACA renewal guidelines and USCIS must send you a request for additional information or explanation.

Q50: Can I file a renewal request outside the recommended filing period of 150 days to 120 days before my current DACA expires?

A50: Yes, you may submit your renewal request outside of the recommended filing window.

However:

- If you file before the recommended filing window (meaning more than 150 days before your current period of DACA expires), USCIS may reject your submission and return it to you with instructions to resubmit your request within the recommended filing period.
- If you file after the recommended filing period (meaning less than 120 days before your current period of DACA expires), USCIS will not consider providing you with any additional short-term period of deferred action and employment authorization before reaching a final decision on your renewal request. This will be true even if your current period of DACA expires while USCIS is considering your renewal request.

If you file after your most recent DACA period expired, but within one year of its expiration, you may submit a request to renew your DACA. If you are filing beyond one year after your most recent period of DACA expired, you may still request DACA by submitting a new initial request.

Q51: How will USCIS evaluate my request for renewal of DACA:

A51: You may be considered for renewal of DACA if you met the guidelines for consideration of Initial DACA (see above) AND you:

1. Did not depart the United States on or after Aug. 15, 2012, without advance parole;
2. Have continuously resided in the United States since you submitted your most recent request for DACA that was approved up to the present time; and
3. Have not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

These guidelines must be met for consideration of DACA renewal. USCIS retains the ultimate discretion to determine whether deferred action is appropriate in any given case even if the guidelines are met.

Q512 Do I accrue unlawful presence if I am seeking renewal and my previous period of DACA expires before I receive a renewal of deferred action under DACA? Similarly, what would happen to my work authorization?

A52: Yes, if your previous period of DACA expires before you receive a renewal of deferred action under DACA, you will accrue unlawful presence for any time between the periods of deferred action unless you are under 18 years of age at the time you submit your renewal request.

Similarly, if your previous period of DACA expires before you receive a renewal of deferred action under DACA, you will not be authorized to work in the United States regardless of your age at time of filing until and unless you receive a new employment authorization document from USCIS.

However, if you have filed your renewal request with USCIS approximately 120 days before your deferred action and EAD expire and USCIS is unexpectedly delayed in processing your renewal request, USCIS may provide deferred action and employment authorization for a short period of time.

Q53. Do I need to provide additional documents when I request renewal of deferred action under DACA?

A53. No, unless you have *new* documents pertaining to removal proceedings or criminal history that you have not already submitted to USCIS in a previously approved DACA request. USCIS, however, reserves the authority to request at its discretion additional documents, information or statements relating to a DACA renewal request determination.

CAUTION: If you knowingly and willfully provide materially false information on Form I-821D, you will be committing a federal felony punishable by a fine, or imprisonment up to five years, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001. In addition, individuals may be placed into removal proceedings, face severe penalties provided by law, and be subject to criminal prosecution.

Q54. If I am no longer in school, can I still request to renew my DACA?

A54. Yes. Neither Form I-821D nor the instructions ask renewal requestors for information about continued school enrollment or graduation. The instructions for renewal requests specify that you may be considered for DACA renewal if you met the guidelines for consideration of initial DACA, including the educational guidelines and:

1. Did not depart the United States on or after August 15, 2012, without advance parole;
2. Have continuously resided in the United States, up to the present time, since you submitted your most recent request for DACA that was approved; and

3. Have not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor or three or more misdemeanors, and are not a threat to national security or public safety.

Q55: If I initially received DACA and was under the age of 31 on June 15, 2012, but have since become 31 or older, can I still request a DACA renewal?

A55: Yes. You may request consideration for a renewal of DACA as long as you were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012.

IV. Travel

Q56: May I travel outside of the United States before I submit an initial Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) request or while my initial DACA request remains pending with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)?

A56: Any unauthorized travel outside of the United States on or after Aug. 15, 2012, will interrupt your continuous residence and you will not be considered for deferred action under this process. Any travel outside of the United States that occurred on or after June 15, 2007, but before Aug. 15, 2012, will be assessed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to determine whether the travel qualifies as brief, casual and innocent. (See Chart #2.)

CAUTION: You should be aware that if you have been ordered deported or removed, and you then leave the United States, your departure will likely result in your being considered deported or removed, with potentially serious future immigration consequences.

Q57: If my case is deferred under DACA, will I be able to travel outside of the United States?

A57: Not automatically. If USCIS has decided to defer action in your case and you want to travel outside the United States, you must apply for advance parole by filing a Form I-131, Application for Travel Document and paying the applicable fee (\$360). USCIS will determine whether your purpose for international travel is justifiable based on the circumstances you describe in your request. Generally, USCIS will only grant advance parole if your travel abroad will be in furtherance of:

- humanitarian purposes, including travel to obtain medical treatment, attending funeral services for a family member, or visiting an ailing relative;
- educational purposes, such as semester-abroad programs and academic research, or;
- employment purposes such as overseas assignments, interviews, conferences or, training, or meetings with clients overseas.

Travel for vacation is not a valid basis for advance parole.

You may not apply for advance parole unless and until USCIS defers action in your case under the consideration of DACA. You cannot apply for advance parole at the same time as you submit your request for consideration of DACA. All advance parole requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

If USCIS has deferred action in your case under the DACA process after you have been ordered deported or removed, you may still request advance parole if you meet the guidelines for advance parole described above.

CAUTION: However, for those individuals who have been ordered deported or removed, before you actually leave the United States, you should seek to reopen your case before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and obtain administrative closure or termination of your removal proceeding. Even after you have asked EOIR to reopen your case, you should not leave the United States until after EOIR has granted your request. If you depart after being ordered deported or removed, and your removal proceeding has not been reopened and administratively closed or terminated, your departure may result in your being considered deported or removed, with potentially serious future immigration consequences. If you have any questions about this process, you may contact U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) through the local ICE Office of the Chief Counsel with jurisdiction over your case.

CAUTION: If you travel outside the United States on or after Aug. 15, 2012, without first receiving advance parole, your departure automatically terminates your deferred action under DACA.

Q58: Do brief departures from the United States interrupt the continuous residence requirement?

A58: A brief, casual and innocent absence from the United States will not interrupt your continuous residence. If you were absent from the United States, your absence will be considered brief, casual and innocent if it was on or after June 15, 2007, and before Aug. 15, 2012, and:

1. The absence was short and reasonably calculated to accomplish the purpose for the absence;
2. The absence was not because of an order of exclusion, deportation or removal;
3. The absence was not because of an order of voluntary departure, or an administrative grant of voluntary departure before you were placed in exclusion, deportation or removal proceedings; and
4. The purpose of the absence and/or your actions while outside the United States were not contrary to law.

Once USCIS has approved your request for DACA, you may file Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, to request advance parole to travel outside of the United States.

CAUTION: If you travel outside the United States on or after Aug. 15, 2012, without first receiving advance parole, your departure automatically terminates your deferred action under DACA.

Travel Guidelines (Chart #2)

Travel Dates	Type of Travel	Does It Affect Continuous Residence
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Travel Dates	Type of Travel	Does It Affect Continuous Residence
On or after June 15, 2007, but before Aug. 15, 2012	Brief, casual and innocent	No
	For an extended time	Yes
	Because of an order of exclusion, deportation, voluntary departure, or removal	
	To participate in criminal activity	
On or after Aug. 15, 2012, and before you have requested deferred action	Any	Yes. You cannot apply for advance parole unless and until DHS has determined whether to defer action in your case and you cannot travel until you receive advance parole.
On or after Aug. 15, 2012, and after you have requested deferred action	Any	In addition, if you have previously been ordered deported and removed and you depart the United States without taking additional steps to address your removal proceedings, your departure will likely result in your being considered deported or removed, with potentially serious future immigration consequences.
On or after Aug. 15, 2012 and after receiving DACA	Any	It depends. If you travel after receiving advance parole, the travel will not interrupt your continuous residence. However, if you travel <i>without</i> receiving advance parole, the travel <i>will</i> interrupt your continuous residence.

Q59: May I file a request for advance parole concurrently with my DACA package?

A59: Concurrent filing of advance parole is not an option at this time. DHS is, however, reviewing its policy on concurrent filing of advance parole with a DACA request. In addition, DHS is also reviewing eligibility criteria for advance parole. If any changes to this policy are made, USCIS will update this FAQ and inform the public accordingly.

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V. Criminal Convictions**Q60: If I have a conviction for a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, or multiple misdemeanors, can I receive an exercise of prosecutorial discretion under this new process?**

A60: No. If you have been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, or three or more other misdemeanor offenses not occurring on the same date and not arising out of the same act, omission, or scheme of misconduct, you will not be considered for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) except where the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) determines there are exceptional circumstances.

Q61: What offenses qualify as a felony?

A61: A felony is a federal, state, or local criminal offense punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.

Q62: What offenses constitute a significant misdemeanor?

A62: For the purposes of this process, a significant misdemeanor is a misdemeanor as defined by federal law (specifically, one for which the maximum term of imprisonment authorized is one year or less but greater than five days) and that meets the following criteria:

1. Regardless of the sentence imposed, is an offense of domestic violence; sexual abuse or exploitation; burglary; unlawful possession or use of a firearm; drug distribution or trafficking; or, driving under the influence; or,
2. If not an offense listed above, is one for which the individual was sentenced to time in custody of more than 90 days. The sentence must involve time to be served in custody, and therefore does not include a suspended sentence.

The time in custody does not include any time served beyond the sentence for the criminal offense based on a state or local law enforcement agency honoring a detainer issued by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Notwithstanding the above, the decision whether to defer action in a particular case is an individualized, discretionary one that is made taking into account the totality of the circumstances. Therefore, the absence of the criminal history outlined above, or its presence, is not necessarily determinative, but is a factor to be considered in the unreviewable exercise of discretion. DHS retains the discretion to determine that an individual does not warrant deferred action on the basis of a single criminal offense for which the individual was sentenced to time in custody of 90 days or less.

Q63: What offenses constitute a non-significant misdemeanor?

A63: For purposes of this process, a non-significant misdemeanor is any misdemeanor as defined by federal law (specifically, one for which the maximum term of imprisonment authorized is one year or less but greater than five days) and that meets the following criteria:

1. Is not an offense of domestic violence; sexual abuse or exploitation; burglary; unlawful possession or use of a firearm; drug distribution or trafficking; or, driving under the influence; and
2. Is one for which the individual was sentenced to time in custody of 90 days or less. The time in custody does not include any time served beyond the sentence for the criminal offense based on a state or local law enforcement agency honoring a detainer issued by ICE.

Notwithstanding the above, the decision whether to defer action in a particular case is an individualized, discretionary one that is made taking into account the totality of the circumstances. Therefore, the absence of the criminal history outlined above, or its presence, is not necessarily determinative, but is a factor to be considered in the unreviewable exercise of discretion.

Q64: If I have a minor traffic offense, such as driving without a license, will it be considered a non-significant misdemeanor that counts towards the "three or more non-significant misdemeanors" making me unable to receive consideration for an exercise of prosecutorial discretion under this new process?

A64: A minor traffic offense will not be considered a misdemeanor for purposes of this process. However, your entire offense history can be considered along with other facts to determine whether, under the totality of the circumstances, you warrant an exercise of prosecutorial discretion.

It is important to emphasize that driving under the influence is a significant misdemeanor regardless of the sentence imposed.

Q65: What qualifies as a national security or public safety threat?

A65: If the background check or other information uncovered during the review of your request for deferred action indicates that your presence in the United States threatens public safety or national security, you will not be able to receive consideration for an exercise of prosecutorial discretion except where DHS determines there are exceptional circumstances. Indicators that you pose such a threat include, but are not limited to, gang membership, participation in criminal activities, or participation in activities that threaten the United States.

Q66: Will offenses criminalized as felonies or misdemeanors by state immigration laws be considered felonies or misdemeanors for purpose of this process?

A66: No. Immigration-related offenses characterized as felonies or misdemeanors by state immigration laws will not be treated as disqualifying felonies or misdemeanors for the purpose of considering a request for consideration of deferred action under this process.

Q67: Will DHS consider my expunged or juvenile conviction as an offense making me unable to receive an exercise of prosecutorial discretion?

A67: Expunged convictions and juvenile convictions will not automatically disqualify you. Your request will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether, under the particular circumstances, a favorable exercise of prosecutorial discretion is warranted. If you were a juvenile, but tried and convicted as an adult, you will be treated as an adult for purposes of the DACA process.

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VI. Miscellaneous

Q68: Does this Administration remain committed to comprehensive immigration reform?

A68: Yes. The Administration has consistently pressed for passage of comprehensive immigration reform, including the DREAM Act, because the President believes these steps are critical to building a 21st century immigration system that meets our nation's economic and security needs.

Q69: Is passage of the DREAM Act still necessary in light of the new process?

A69: Yes. The Secretary of Homeland Security's June 15, 2012, memorandum allowing certain people to request consideration for deferred action is one in a series of steps that DHS has taken to focus its enforcement resources on the removal of individuals who pose a danger to national security or a risk to public safety. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is an exercise of prosecutorial discretion and does not provide lawful status or a pathway to citizenship. As the President has stated, individuals who would qualify for the DREAM Act deserve certainty about their status. Only the Congress, acting through its legislative authority, can confer the certainty that comes with a pathway to permanent lawful status.

Q70: Does deferred action provide me with a path to permanent resident status or citizenship?

A70: No. Deferred action is a form of prosecutorial discretion that does not confer lawful permanent resident status or a path to citizenship. Only the Congress, acting through its legislative authority, can confer these rights.

Q71: Can I be considered for deferred action even if I do not meet the guidelines to be considered for DACA?

A71: This process is only for individuals who meet the specific guidelines for DACA. Other individuals may, on a case-by-case basis, request deferred action from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in certain circumstances, consistent with longstanding practice.

Q72: How will ICE and USCIS handle cases involving individuals who do not satisfy the guidelines of this process but believe they may warrant an exercise of prosecutorial discretion under the June 2011 Prosecutorial Discretion Memoranda?

A72: If USCIS determines that you do not satisfy the guidelines or otherwise determines you do not warrant an exercise of prosecutorial discretion, then it will decline to defer action in your case. If you are currently in removal proceedings, have a final order, or have a voluntary departure order, you may then request ICE consider whether to exercise prosecutorial discretion.

Q73: How should I fill out question 9 on Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization?

A73: When you are filing a Form I-765 as part of a DACA request, question 9 is asking you to list those Social Security numbers that were officially issued to you by the Social Security Administration.

Q74: Will there be supervisory review of decisions by USCIS under this process?

A74: Yes. USCIS has implemented a successful supervisory review process to ensure a consistent process for considering requests for DACA.

Q72: Will USCIS personnel responsible for reviewing requests for DACA receive special training?

A72: Yes. USCIS personnel responsible for considering requests for consideration of DACA have received special training.

Q75: Must attorneys and accredited representatives who provide pro bono services to deferred action requestors at group assistance events file a Form G-28 with USCIS?

A75: Under 8 C.F.R. §§ 292.3 and 1003.102, practitioners are required to file a Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative when they engage in practice in immigration matters before DHS, either in person or through the preparation or filing of any brief, application, petition, or other document. Under these rules, a practitioner who consistently violates the requirement to file a Form G-28 may be subject to disciplinary sanctions; however on Feb. 28, 2011, USCIS issued a statement indicating that it does not intend to initiate disciplinary proceedings against practitioners (attorneys and accredited representatives) based solely on the failure to submit a Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative (Form G-28) in relation to pro bono services provided at group assistance events. DHS is in the process of issuing a final rule at which time this matter will be reevaluated.

Q76: When must an individual sign a Form I-821D as a preparer?

A77: Anytime someone other than the requestor prepares or helps fill out the Form I-821D, that individual must complete Part 5 of the form.

Q78: If I provide my employee with information regarding his or her employment to support a request for consideration of DACA, will that information be used for immigration enforcement purposes against me and/or my company?

A78: You may, as you determine appropriate, provide individuals requesting DACA with documentation which verifies their employment. This information will not be shared with ICE for civil immigration enforcement purposes under section 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (relating to unlawful employment) unless there is evidence of egregious violations of criminal statutes or widespread abuses.

Q79: Can I request consideration for deferred action under this process if I live in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)?

A79: Yes, in certain circumstances. The CNMI is part of the United States for immigration purposes and is not excluded from this process. However, because of the specific guidelines for consideration of DACA, individuals who have been residents of the CNMI are in most cases unlikely to qualify for the program. You must, among other things, have come to the United States before your 16th birthday and have resided continuously in the United States since June 15, 2007.

Under the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, the CNMI became part of the United States for purposes of immigration law only on Nov. 28, 2009. Therefore entry into, or residence in, the CNMI before that date is not entry into, or residence in, the United States for purposes of the DACA process.

USCIS has used parole authority in a variety of situations in the CNMI to address particular humanitarian needs on a case-by-case basis since Nov. 28, 2009. If you live in the CNMI and believe that you meet the guidelines for consideration of deferred action under this process, except that your entry and/or residence to the CNMI took place entirely or in part before Nov. 28, 2009, USCIS is willing to consider your situation on a case-by-case basis for a grant of parole. If this situation applies to you, you should make an appointment through INFOPASS with the USCIS ASC in Saipan to discuss your case with an immigration officer.

Q80: Someone told me if I pay them a fee, they can expedite my DACA request. Is this true?

A80: No. There is no expedited processing for deferred action. Dishonest practitioners may promise to provide you with faster services if you pay them a fee. These people are trying to scam you and take your money. Visit our Avoid Scams page to learn how you can protect yourself from immigration scams.

Make sure you seek information about requests for consideration of DACA from official government sources such as USCIS or the DHS. If you are seeking legal advice, visit our Find Legal Services page to learn how to choose a licensed attorney or accredited representative.

Q81: Am I required to register with the Selective Service?

A81: Most male persons residing in the U.S., who are ages 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service. Please see link for more information. [Selective Service].

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Last Reviewed/Updated: 12/04/2014

EXHIBIT C

Request for Appearance for Initial Interview		NOTICE DATE OCTOBER 1, 2014	
CASE TYPE Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals		USCIS A# [REDACTED]	
APPLICATION NUMBER [REDACTED]		PRIORITY DATE	PAGE #
PETITIONER NAME AND ADDRESS [REDACTED]			
<p>You are hereby notified to appear for an interview appointment, as scheduled below, related to your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. <u>Failure to appear for this interview and/or failure to bring the below listed items may result in the denial of your Form I-821D and Form I-765 (Title 8 Code of Federal Regulations 103.2(b)(13)).</u></p> <p>If you are over 18 years of age, you must come to the interview with identification bearing your name and photograph, such as a driver's license, state-issued identification card or passport, in order to enter the building and to verify your identity at the time of the interview. Please be on time, but do not arrive more than 45 minutes before your scheduled interview to avoid overcrowding.</p> <p><u>You must bring the following items with you:</u> (Please use this as a checklist to prepare for your interview)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This interview notice and your identification. ➤ All documentation establishing you meet the guidelines for deferred action for childhood arrivals. An individual may be considered for deferred action for childhood arrivals if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012; ○ Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday; ○ Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time; ○ Were present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request; ○ Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012; ○ Are currently in school at the time of filing, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from a high school, have obtained a general educational development certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and, ○ Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety. ➤ If you have ever been arrested, please bring a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc., for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law. If you are unable to provide such records because the case was expunged or sealed, please bring evidence demonstrating that such records are unavailable under the law of the particular jurisdiction. <p>For additional information on documentary evidence needed under the guidelines to establish eligibility, please visit www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals</p> <p><u>You must appear for this interview.</u> If an emergency, such as your own illness or a close relative's hospitalization, prevents you from appearing, call the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 (Hearing Impaired TDD Service is 1-800-767-1833) as soon as possible. Please be advised that rescheduling this appointment will delay the processing of your Form I-821D and Form I-765.</p> <p>If you have any questions or comments regarding this notice or the status of your case, please contact our office at the below address or customer service number. You will be notified separately about any other cases you may have filed.</p> <p>PLEASE COME TO: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services 1177 Fulton Mall Fresno, CA 93721</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ON: OCTOBER 22, 2014 AT: 9:00 A.M. ISO: [REDACTED]</p>			

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
790 Sandhill Road
Reno, NV 89521



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

File: [REDACTED]
Date: October 15, 2014


cc: [REDACTED], Attorney at Law

OFFICE LOCATION	U.S. Department of Homeland Security USCIS 790 Sandhill Road Reno, NV 89521
DATE/TIME OF APPOINTMENT	Oct 21, 2014 @ 8:00 a.m.
REASON FOR APPOINTMENT	I-821 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

You must bring picture ID with you (i.e., passport, valid driver license, military ID, etc.).
Additionally, bring this letter as proof of your appointment and any previously requested documents.

Failure to attend this interview will result in the denial of any pending petitions or applications. (8CFR 103.2(9))

Sincerely,


Walter L. Haith
Field Office Director
sj

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Boise Field Office
1185 S. Vinnell Way
Boise Idaho 83709



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

HAND DELIVERED AT INTERVIEW

Date: September 10, 2014

Interviewing Officer: [REDACTED]

Form Type: I-821D

NOTICE OF INTERVIEW RESULTS

You have just completed your interview for, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (Form I-821D). USCIS is unable to provide a final decision to you at this time because your request requires additional review. Please see below for further explanation.

REASON FOR CONTINUANCE

Your case is being transferred to the Nebraska Service Center for additional file review and processing of Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. Should further information or documents be required to complete the processing of Form I-821D or Form I-765, the Nebraska Service Center will issue you a notice in the mail within 30 days.

Please allow for no less than 120 days before making a status inquiry on your case. You may make a status inquiry through the national customer service line at 1(800)375-5283 or check your case status online at www.uscis.gov. If you change your address while Form I-821D remains pending, you must file Form AR-11 and contact the national customer service line to ensure that your file and all systems are updated with your current address. Form AR-11 and its instructions may be obtained at <http://www.uscis.gov/ar-11>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Michael G.", written over the printed name "Field Office Director".

Field Office Director

cc: [REDACTED]

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Boise Field Office
11800 Vinnell Way
Boise, ID 83709



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

Refer To File Number: [REDACTED]

Date: August 19, 2014

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Our office has received your I-821D Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Please see the attached Form I-797C, Notice of Action.

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]
ISO, USCIS
Boise Field Office

Cc: [REDACTED]

Form I-797C, Notice of Action

Request for Appearance for Initial Interview

Case Type: Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

You are hereby notified to appear for an interview appointment, as scheduled below, related to your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. Failure to appear for this interview and/or failure to bring the below listed items may result in the denial of your Form I-821D and Form I-765 (Title 8 Code of Federal Regulations 103.2(b)(13)).

If you are over 18 years of age, you must come to the interview with identification bearing your name and photograph, such as a driver's license, state-issued identification card or passport, in order to enter the building and to verify your identity at the time of the interview. Please be on time, but do not arrive more than 45 minutes before your scheduled interview to avoid overcrowding.

You must bring the following items with you: (Please use this as a checklist to prepare for your interview)

- ☐ This interview notice and your identification.
- ☐ All documentation establishing you meet the guidelines for deferred action for childhood arrivals. An individual may be considered for deferred action for childhood arrivals if you:
 - ☐ Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
 - ☐ Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
 - ☐ Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
 - ☐ Were present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request;
 - ☐ Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012;
 - ☐ Are currently in school at the time of filing, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from a high school, have obtained a general educational development certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and,
 - ☐ Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.
- ☐ If you have ever been arrested, please bring a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc., for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law. If you are unable to provide such records because the case was expunged or sealed, please bring evidence demonstrating that such records are unavailable under the law of the particular jurisdiction.

For additional information on documentary evidence needed under the guidelines to establish eligibility, please visit www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals

You must appear for this interview. If an emergency, such as your own illness or a close relative's hospitalization, prevents you from appearing, call the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 (Hearing Impaired TDD Service is 1-800-767-1833) as soon as possible. Please be advised that rescheduling this appointment will delay the processing of your Form I-821D and Form I-765.

Please come to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service 1185 S Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709.

On: September 10, 2014

At: 9:00am

EXHIBIT D

September 26, 2014

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
P.O. Box 82521
Lincoln, NE 68501-2521



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



RE: I-821 D, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE

The documentation submitted is not sufficient to warrant favorable consideration of your request.

See Letter for Details

Your response must be received in this office by December 19, 2014

Your case is being held in this office pending your response. Within this period you may:

1. Submit all of the evidence requested;
2. Submit some or none of the evidence requested and ask for a decision based upon the record; or
3. Withdraw the request. (Please note that if the request is withdrawn, the filing fee cannot be refunded.)

You must submit all of the evidence at one time. Submission of only part of the evidence requested will be considered a request for a decision based on the record. No extension of the period allowed to submit evidence will be granted. If the evidence submitted does not establish that your case was approvable at the time it was filed, it can be denied. If you do not respond to this request within the time allowed, your case will be considered abandoned and denied. Evidence received in this office after the due date may not be considered.

If you submit a document in any language other than English, it must be accompanied by a full **complete** English translation. The translator must certify the translation is accurate and he or she is competent to translate. Note: You must submit the requested foreign language document along with the translation.

For deferred action for childhood arrivals, **affidavits or sworn statements generally are not satisfactory evidence**. Affidavits will only be considered as evidence in two situations: 1. When there is a shortcoming in documentation to explain brief, casual, and innocent departures during the period of continuous residence in the United States; and 2. To explain a minor gap in documentation showing you meet the continuous residence requirement. If you submit affidavits for these two reasons, you should provide two or more affidavits, sworn to or affirmed by people other than yourself who have direct, personal knowledge of the information.

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GRADUATED FROM SCHOOL

The evidence you submitted with your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, to show that you graduated or received a certificate of completion from a U.S. High School, public or private college, or university or community college, or have obtained a General Educational Development (GED) Certificate in the United States or equivalent under State law is insufficient. You did not submit a copy of your diploma showing you have graduated. You may still submit evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, copies of:

- A high school diploma from a public or private high school or secondary school;
- A recognized equivalent of a high school diploma under state law, including a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, a certificate of completion, or a certificate of attendance;
- A transcript that identifies the date of graduation or program completion;
- An enrollment history that shows the date of graduation or program completion;
- A degree from a public or private college or university or community college; or
- An alternate award from a public or private high school or secondary school.

Documentation sufficient to demonstrate that you obtained a GED includes, but is not limited to, evidence you passed a GED exam, or other comparable State-authorized exam, and, as a result, you received the recognized equivalent of a regular high school diploma under State law.

SUBMIT JUDGMENT AND CONVICTION DOCUMENTS

A background check has been conducted based upon the fingerprints you provided at the Application Support Center. Your criminal history check has revealed that you were arrested on [REDACTED] in Wenatchee, WA and charged with Driving Under the Influence.

At this time you must provide a **final** certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc. for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law within the United States. If you are unable to provide such records because your case was expunged or sealed, you must provide information about your arrest and evidence demonstrating that such records are unavailable under the law of the particular jurisdiction. The charge and disposition of each arrest must be specifically identified (not just numeric citations or codes). Additionally, if you were convicted, you may submit a copy of the pertinent statute, sentencing guide, or statement from the court clerk or police department identifying the statute under which you were convicted and the sentence you received.

If you fail to submit such evidence, USCIS may deny your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.


PLACE THIS ENTIRE LETTER ON TOP OF YOUR RESPONSE. SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE WITHOUT THIS LETTER WILL DELAY PROCESSING OF YOUR CASE AND MAY RESULT IN A DENIAL. PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO MAIL THE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE REQUESTED BACK TO THIS OFFICE.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Hazuda

Director

Officer: 



June 27, 2014

COPY

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
 P.O. Box 82521
 Lincoln, NE 68501-2521

JUL 31 2014



U.S. Citizenship
 and Immigration
 Services



RE: I-821 D, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE

The documentation submitted is not sufficient to warrant favorable consideration of your request.

See Letter for Details

Your response must be received in this office by September 19, 2014

Your case is being held in this office pending your response. Within this period you may:

1. Submit all of the evidence requested;
2. Submit some or none of the evidence requested and ask for a decision based upon the record; or
3. Withdraw the request. (Please note that if the request is withdrawn, the filing fee cannot be refunded.)

You must submit all of the evidence at one time. Submission of only part of the evidence requested will be considered a request for a decision based on the record. No extension of the period allowed to submit evidence will be granted. If the evidence submitted does not establish that your case was approvable at the time it was filed, it can be denied. If you do not respond to this request within the time allowed, your case will be considered abandoned and denied. Evidence received in this office after the due date may not be considered.

If you submit a document in any language other than English, it must be accompanied by a full **complete** English translation. The translator must certify the translation is accurate and he or she is competent to translate. Note: You must submit the requested foreign language document along with the translation.

For deferred action for childhood arrivals, **affidavits or sworn statements generally are not satisfactory evidence.** Affidavits will only be considered as evidence in two situations: 1. When there is a shortcoming in documentation to explain brief, casual, and innocent departures during the period of continuous residence in the United States; and 2. To explain a minor gap in documentation showing you meet the continuous residence requirement. If you submit affidavits for these two reasons, you should provide two or more affidavits, sworn to or affirmed by people other than yourself who have direct, personal knowledge of the information.

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CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE

The evidence you submitted with your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, to establish that you have continuously resided in the United States during the 5-year period immediately before June 15, 2012, and up to the time of filing is insufficient because no evidence was submitted for 2014.

- a. Employment records (e.g., pay stubs, W-2 Forms, certification of the filing of Federal income tax returns, State verification of the filing of state income tax returns, letters from employer(s), or, if you are self employed, letters from banks and other firms with whom you have done business);

NOTE: In all of these documents, your name and the name of the employer or other interested organization must appear on the form or letter, as well as relevant dates. Letters from employers must be signed by the employer and must include the employer's contact information.

Such letters must include: **(1)** your address(es) at the time of employment; **(2)** the exact period(s) of employment; **(3)** period(s) of layoff; and **(4)** duties with the company.

- b. Rent receipts, utility bills (gas, electric, phone, etc.), receipts or letters from companies showing the dates during which you received service;
- c. School records (transcripts, letters, report cards, etc.) from the schools that you have attended in the United States, showing the name(s) of the schools and periods of school attendance;
- d. Military records (e.g., Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service; military personnel records; or military health records);
- e. Hospital or medical records concerning treatment or hospitalization, showing the name of the medical facility or physician and the date(s) of the treatment or hospitalization;
- f. Official records from a religious entity in the United States confirming your participation in a religious ceremony, rite, or passage (e.g., baptism, first communion, wedding, etc.);
- g. Money order receipts for money sent into or out of the country; passport entries; birth certificates of children born in the United States; dated bank transactions; correspondence between you and another person or organization; U.S. Social Security card; Selective Service card; automobile license receipts, title, vehicle registration, etc.; deeds, mortgages, rental agreements, contracts to which you have been a party; tax receipts; insurance policies; receipts; postmarked letters; or
- h. Any other relevant document.

ANSWERED "NO" TO QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 IN PART 3— USCIS FOUND CLEAR CHARGES OR OTHER DEROGATORY INFORMATION, SUBMIT JUDGMENT AND CONVICTION DOCUMENTS

A background check has been conducted based upon the fingerprints you provided at the Application

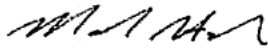
Support Center. Your background check revealed that you were arrested on [REDACTED] in Albuquerque, NM and charged with POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.

At this time you must provide a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc. for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law within the United States. If you are unable to provide such records because your case was expunged or sealed, you must provide information about your arrest and evidence demonstrating that such records are unavailable under the law of the particular jurisdiction. The charge and disposition of each arrest must be specifically identified (not just numeric citations or codes). Additionally, if you were convicted, you may submit a copy of the pertinent statute, sentencing guide, or statement from the court clerk or police department identifying the statute under which you were convicted and the sentence you received.

If you fail to submit such evidence, USCIS may deny your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

PLACE THIS ENTIRE LETTER ON TOP OF YOUR RESPONSE. SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE WITHOUT THIS LETTER WILL DELAY PROCESSING OF YOUR CASE AND MAY RESULT IN A DENIAL. PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO MAIL THE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE REQUESTED BACK TO THIS OFFICE.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Hazuda
Director
Officer: [REDACTED]



August 13, 2014

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
P.O. Box 82521
Lincoln, NE 68501-2521



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



RE: [REDACTED]
I-821 D, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE

The documentation submitted is not sufficient to warrant favorable consideration of your request.

See Letter for Details

Your response must be received in this office by November 5, 2014

Your case is being held in this office pending your response. Within this period you may:

1. Submit all of the evidence requested;
2. Submit some or none of the evidence requested and ask for a decision based upon the record; or
3. Withdraw the request. (Please note that if the request is withdrawn, the filing fee cannot be refunded.)

You must submit all of the evidence at one time. Submission of only part of the evidence requested will be considered a request for a decision based on the record. No extension of the period allowed to submit evidence will be granted. If the evidence submitted does not establish that your case was approvable at the time it was filed, it can be denied. If you do not respond to this request within the time allowed, your case will be considered abandoned and denied. Evidence received in this office after the due date may not be considered.

If you submit a document in any language other than English, it must be accompanied by a full complete English translation. The translator must certify the translation is accurate and he or she is competent to translate. Note: You must submit the requested foreign language document along with the translation.

For deferred action for childhood arrivals, **affidavits or sworn statements generally are not satisfactory evidence**. Affidavits will only be considered as evidence in two situations: 1. When there is a shortcoming in documentation to explain brief, casual, and innocent departures during the period of continuous residence in the United States; and 2. To explain a minor gap in documentation showing you meet the continuous residence requirement. If you submit affidavits for these two reasons, you should provide two or more affidavits, sworn to or affirmed by people other than yourself who have direct, personal knowledge of the information.

IDENTITY

No evidence was submitted with your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, to prove your identity. You may still submit evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, copies of:

- Passport;
- Birth certificate accompanied by photo identification;
- Any national identity documents from your country of origin bearing your photo and/or fingerprint;
- Any U.S.-government immigration or other document bearing your name and photograph (e.g., Employment Authorization Documents (EADs), expired visas, driver's licenses, non-driver cards, etc.);
- Any school-issued form of identification with photo;
- Military identification document with photo;
- State issued photo ID showing date of birth; or
- Any other document that you believe is relevant.

Expired documents are acceptable.

CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE

The evidence you submitted with your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, to establish that you have continuously resided in the United States during the 5-year period immediately before June 15, 2012, and up to the time of filing is insufficient. You have submitted sufficient evidence to document your residency in the United States for 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2013. You submitted account statements as evidence of your residence in the United States for the years 2009, 2011, 2012. However, these documents are insufficient as evidence of your residency for those years. Additionally, no evidence was submitted for 2014. You may still submit evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, copies of:

- a. Employment records (e.g., pay stubs, W-2 Forms, certification of the filing of Federal income tax returns, State verification of the filing of state income tax returns, letters from employer(s), or, if you are self employed, letters from banks and other firms with whom you have done business);

NOTE: In all of these documents, your name and the name of the employer or other interested organization must appear on the form or letter, as well as relevant dates. Letters from employers must be signed by the employer and must include the employer's contact information.

Such letters must include: (1) your address(es) at the time of employment; (2) the exact period(s) of employment; (3) period(s) of layoff; and (4) duties with the company.

- b. Rent receipts, utility bills (gas, electric, phone, etc.), receipts or letters from companies showing the dates during which you received service;
- c. School records (transcripts, letters, report cards, etc.) from the schools that you have attended in the United States, showing the name(s) of the schools and periods of school attendance;

- d. Military records (e.g., Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service; military personnel records; or military health records);
- e. Hospital or medical records concerning treatment or hospitalization, showing the name of the medical facility or physician and the date(s) of the treatment or hospitalization;
- f. Official records from a religious entity in the United States confirming your participation in a religious ceremony, rite, or passage (e.g., baptism, first communion, wedding, etc.);
- g. Money order receipts for money sent into or out of the country; passport entries; birth certificates of children born in the United States; dated bank transactions; correspondence between you and another person or organization; U.S. Social Security card; Selective Service card; automobile license receipts, title, vehicle registration, etc.; deeds, mortgages, rental agreements, contracts to which you have been a party; tax receipts; insurance policies; receipts; postmarked letters; or
- h. Any other relevant document.

PROOF OF PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES ON JUNE 15, 2012

The evidence you submitted with your Form I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, to show that you were present in the United States on June 15, 2012 is insufficient. You submitted copies of account statements for 2012. However, the account statements you submitted for 2012 do not contain sufficient information to verify that you were physically present in the U.S. on June 15. You may still submit evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, copies of:

- a. Employment records (e.g., pay stubs, W-2 Forms, certification of the filing of Federal income tax returns, State verification of the filing of state income tax returns, letters from employer(s), or, if you are self-employed, letters from banks and other firms with whom you have done business).

NOTE: In all of these documents, your name and the name of the employer or other interested organization must appear on the form or letter, as well as relevant dates. Letters from employers must be signed by the employer and must include the employer's contact information.

Such letters must include: (1) your address(es) at the time of employment; (2) the exact period(s) of employment; (3) period(s) of layoff; and (4) duties with the company.

- b. Rent receipts, utility bills (gas, electric, phone, etc.), receipts or letters from companies showing the dates during which you received service.
- c. School records (transcripts, letters, report cards, etc.) from the schools that you have attended in the United States, showing the name(s) of the schools and periods of school attendance.
- d. Military records (e.g., Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service; military personnel records; or military health records).
- e. Hospital or medical records concerning treatment or hospitalization, showing the name of the

medical facility or physician and the date(s) of the treatment or hospitalization.

- f. Official records from a religious entity in the United States confirming your participation in a religious ceremony, rite, or passage (e.g., baptism, first communion, wedding, etc.).
- g. Money order receipts for money sent into or out of the country; passport entries; birth certificates of children born in the United States; dated bank transactions; correspondence between you and another person or organization; U.S. Social Security card; Selective Service card; automobile license receipts, title, vehicle registration, etc.; deeds, mortgages, contracts to which you have been a party; tax receipts; insurance policies; receipts; postmarked letters; or
- h. Any other relevant document.

SUBMIT JUDGMENT AND CONVICTION DOCUMENTS

A background check has been conducted based upon the fingerprints you provided at the Application Support Center. Your criminal history check has revealed that you were arrested for the following:

- Arrested [REDACTED] in McAllen Texas and charged with False Report to Police Officer/Law Enforce Empl (37.08 PC).

At this time you must provide a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc. for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law within the United States. If you are unable to provide such records because your case was expunged or sealed, you must provide information about your arrest and evidence demonstrating that such records are unavailable under the law of the particular jurisdiction. The charge and disposition of each arrest must be specifically identified (not just numeric citations or codes). Additionally, if you were convicted, you may submit a copy of the pertinent statute, sentencing guide, or statement from the court clerk or police department identifying the statute under which you were convicted and the sentence you received.

If you fail to submit such evidence, USCIS may deny your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

PLACE THIS ENTIRE LETTER ON TOP OF YOUR RESPONSE. SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE WITHOUT THIS LETTER WILL DELAY PROCESSING OF YOUR CASE AND MAY RESULT IN A DENIAL. PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO MAIL THE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE REQUESTED BACK TO THIS OFFICE.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Hazuda

Director

Officer: [REDACTED]

June 10, 2014

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
P.O. Box 82521
Lincoln, NE 68501-2521



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



RE: [REDACTED]
I-821D, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY

USCIS has reviewed your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

In order to be considered for deferred action as a childhood arrival, you are to demonstrate that you warrant the favorable exercise of prosecutorial discretion.

According to the information provided with your request, and/or based on information obtained during routine systems checks, it appears that you have a record of juvenile delinquency.

The record indicates that you committed the following offense(s) as a minor.


- On [REDACTED], at the age of 16 you committed Robbery and Grand Theft, in violation of PC 211 and PC 487. Your case was adjudicated as a juvenile delinquency at Los Angeles CA.

While a finding of juvenile delinquency is not considered a criminal conviction for purposes of deferred action, given the seriousness of your offense, USCIS has determined that you do not merit a favorable exercise of discretion.

Accordingly, USCIS intends to deny your request for consideration for deferred action for childhood arrivals. You are afforded thirty-three (33) days from the date of this notice of intent to deny to submit additional information, evidence, or arguments overcoming the grounds for the intended denial.

Failure to respond to this notice of intent to deny will result in the denial of your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

Sincerely,


Mark J. Hazuda
Director
Officer: [REDACTED]

September 12, 2014

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
P.O. Box 82521
Lincoln, NE 68501-2521



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



RE: [REDACTED]
I-821-D, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY

USCIS has reviewed your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

In order to be considered for deferred action for childhood arrivals, you are to demonstrate that you have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.


According to the information provided with your request, and/or based on information obtained during routine systems checks, it appears that you pose a threat to public safety because you committed multiple felonies as a juvenile and have been involved in the sale of illegal drugs.

Furthermore, based on the totality of the circumstances, it does not appear that you warrant a favorable exercise of prosecutorial discretion.

Accordingly, USCIS intends to deny your request for consideration for deferred action for childhood arrivals. You are afforded thirty-three (33) days from the date of this notice of intent to deny to submit additional information, evidence, or arguments overcoming the grounds for the intended denial.

Failure to respond to this notice of intent to deny will result in the denial of your request for consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals.

Sincerely,


Mark J. Hazuda
Director
Officer: [REDACTED]

OCT 14 2014 PM 1 003

EXHIBIT E

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Washington, DC 20529



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Receipts, Rejections, Approvals, Denials, NOIDs, and RFEs from August 15, 2012 -December 31, 2014						
Type of Filing	Receipts	Rejections	Approvals	Denials	NOIDs	RFEs
Initials	727,164	43,174	638,897	38,597	6,496	188,767
Renewals	234,991	12,648	148,171	71	117	2,685
Grand Total	962,155	55,822	787,068	38,668	6,613	191,452

Please note:

1) The report reflects the most up-to-date data available at the time the report is generated.

2) The duplicates and rejected cases have been removed.

Database Queried January 6, 2015

Report Created: January 29 2015

System: CIS Consolidated Operational Repository (CISCOR)

By: Office of Performance and Quality (OPQ), Performance Analysis & External Reporting (PAER), DL

Parameter

*Date: Receipts, Approvals, Denials, Rejections, Requests for Evidence, Notice of Intent to Deny
from 08/15/2012 to 01/23/2015*

Form Type(s): I-821D

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Washington, DC 20529



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

**U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization
Class Preference C33 (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)
Receipts and Approvals
Fiscal Years 2012- 2014 (December)**

Count	Receipts	Approvals
Total	970,735	825,640

Please note:

- 1) The report reflects the most up-to-date data available at the time the report is generated.
- 2) The Rejections and duplicates have been removed.

Report Created: January 28, 2015

System: CIS Consolidated Operational Repository (CISCOR)

By: Office of Performance and Quality (OPQ), Performance Analysis & External Reporting (PAER), DL

Parameters:

Date: Fiscal Years 2012-2014 (December 31)

Form Type: I-765, Class Preference C33

Data Type: Receipts, Approvals